

Application No. 10/644,122

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A patient support including:
~~a patient support surface~~ an articulating deck including a first deck section and a second deck section able to be articulated relative to the first deck section, and
a siderail coupled to the deck, the siderail having a siderail covering comprising a flexible body having a plurality of notches defined in the body, the flexible body being able to flex so as to alter the size of the notches.
2. (Currently Amended) The patient support of claim 1, wherein the siderail covering further comprising a central siderail-receiving aperture adapted to receive a rail member therein.
3. (Currently Amended) The patient support of claim 2, wherein the siderail covering further comprising a slot extending from an outer edge of the body to the central siderail-receiving aperture.
4. (Previously Presented) The patient support of claim 1, wherein the flexible body is made of foam.
5. (Currently Amended) The patient support of claim 1, wherein the siderail covering further comprising a longitudinal axis, wherein the body flexes about an axis that deviates from being parallel with the longitudinal axis of the siderail covering.
6. (Previously Presented) The patient support of claim 1, defining a siderail channel therein adapted to receive a siderail therein.
7. (Currently Amended) A siderail covering comprising a flexible body having a plurality of notches defined in the body, the flexible body being able to flex so as to alter the size of the notches and defining a siderail channel therein adapted to receive a patient support siderail therein, the siderail being coupled to an articulatable patient support, the siderail channel extending within the flexible body and at least one of the plurality of notches, wherein the body is able to flex so as to alter the size of the notches when the siderail moves during articulation of the articulatable patient support.
8. (Previously Presented) The patient support of claim 1, wherein the plurality of notches include a first set of notches and a second set of notches.
9. (Previously Presented) The patient support of claim 8, wherein expansion of at least one of the notches in the first set of notches and contraction of at least one notch in the second set of notches is associated with a curvature of the siderail covering.
10. (Currently Amended) A covering for a ~~patient support~~ siderail coupled to an articulatable patient support, the covering comprising a flexible body having a plurality of

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notches defined in the body, the flexible body adaptable to cover a patient support siderail, the body being able to flex so as to alter the size of the notches when the siderail moves during articulation of the articulatable patient support, the plurality of notches including a first set of notches on a first side of the flexible body and a second set of notches on a second side of the flexible body.

11. (Cancelled)
12. (Currently Amended) The patient support of claim ~~11~~ 31, wherein the rail member is an articulating rail member.
13. (Currently Amended) The patient support of claim ~~11~~ 31, wherein the laterally extending apertures are triangular in cross section.
14. (Cancelled)
15. (Currently Amended) A patient support siderail for use with an articulatable patient support, the siderail comprising a flexible body including a flexible material having a plurality of laterally extending apertures, and a rail member positioned at least partially inside the flexible body, the flexible body including a central rail member aperture therein configured to receive a rail member therein and the rail member extending within the central rail member aperture and through at least one of the plurality of laterally extending apertures, the body being able to flex so as to alter the size of the notches when the siderail moves during articulation of the articulatable patient support.
16. (Withdrawn – Currently Amended) The siderail of claim ~~14~~ 31, wherein the flexible body further includes an outer edge and a seam that extends between the outer edge and the central rail member aperture.
17. (Withdrawn) The siderail of claim 16, wherein the seam extends longitudinally along the flexible body.
18. (Currently Amended) A siderail for a patient support, comprising:
a siderail covering having a flexible body adaptable to be coupled to a siderail coupled to a patient support having an articulatable deck, the body including foam having a plurality of laterally extending apertures, and
a rail member positioned at least partially inside the flexible body.
19. (Currently Amended) The patient support of claim ~~11~~ 31, wherein the flexible body includes a plurality of repeating segments along a longitudinal axis of the body.
20. (Previously Presented) The patient support of claim 19, wherein each repeating segment is pivotable relative to adjacent repeating segments.

21. (Currently Amended) A patient support comprising:
an articulating deck including a first deck section and a second deck section
able to be articulated relative to the first deck section;
~~a patient support surface; and~~
a siderail coupled to the articulating deck; and
a siderail covering including a body comprising a flexible material having a plurality of adjustably sized notches therein, the body having a first longitudinal end, a second longitudinal end, and a body centerline extending within the body between the first longitudinal end and the second longitudinal end, the body having a first position in which the body centerline is straight, and the body having a second position in which the body centerline is curved.
22. (Previously Presented) The patient support of claim 21, wherein the first longitudinal end is located at a higher elevation than the second longitudinal end when in the second position.
23. (Previously Presented) The patient support of claim 21, wherein the body includes a plurality of repeating segments.
24. (Previously Presented) The patient support of claim 23, wherein each repeating segment has a longitudinal segment centerline.
25. (Previously Presented) The patient support of claim 24, wherein the body centerline is coextensive with the segment centerlines of the plurality of repeating segments.
26. (Previously Presented) The patient support of claim 23, wherein each repeating segment is pivotable relative to adjacent repeating segments.
27. (Original) A patient support comprising:
an articulating deck including a first deck section and a second deck section
able to be articulated relative to the first deck section;
a first siderail portion coupled to the first deck section;
a second siderail portion coupled to the second deck section; and
a siderail covering coupled to the first siderail portion and the second siderail portion, the siderail covering comprising a body having a plurality of adjustably sized apertures defined therein.
28. (Original) The patient support of claim 27, wherein articulation of the deck causes adjustment of the adjustably sized apertures.
29. (Original) The patient support of claim 27, wherein the adjustably sized apertures are triangular in cross section.

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30. (Original) The patient support of claim 27, further comprising a rail member, wherein the siderail covering includes central rail member aperture therein adapted to receive the rail member therein.

31. (New) A patient support comprising:
an articulating deck including a first deck section and a second deck section able to be articulated relative to the first deck section;
a siderail having a rail member; and
a siderail covering having a flexible body including a flexible material having a plurality of laterally extending apertures and a central rail member aperture adapted to receive the rail member therein.